(b) whether the consultant has been selected for the feasibility study of remaining parts of National Highways No. 11, 12 and 14; and

(c) if so, the progress made in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Detailed Project report of Jaipur-Reengus section on NH-11 and Jaipur-Tonk-Deoli section on NH-12 under National Highway Development Project (NHDP) Phase-III have been received. However, there is no Development Project called as Phase-IVB.

(b) Yes, Sir. Consultant has been selected for the feasibility study for the remaining part of National Highway no. 11,12 and 14 in Rajasthan.

(c) Feasibility reports of Reengus-Sikar section on NH-11, Deoli-Jhalawar section of NH-12 and Beawar-Pali-Pindwara section of NH-14 have been received.

Bridge over River Tista on NH-31

†525. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to construct a new bridge over the river Tista on National Highway-31, passing *via* Darjeeling to Jalpaiguri, Dooars Coochbihar towards North East;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the construction work is expected to commence; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) No Sir, there is no plan to construct a new bridge over the river Tista on National Highway-31.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The State Government has not proposed for construction of new bridge over river Tista.

National Highway 5

526. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of completion of NH-5 Balasore-Bhadrak stretch in Orissa, as inordinate delay in its completion has become a serious cause of inconvenience to the travellers;

(b) whether there have been repeated complaints/agitations by the locals for early completion of this stretch; and

(c) if so, what is holding up this project and the action plan of the concerned authorities to address this concern?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Out of 62.64 km of Balasore - Bhadrak stretch of National Highway-5, four laning of 35.66 km was already completed by the original Contractor before the contract was terminated due to slow pace of work. Balance work has since been re-awarded in November, 2008.

(b) Yes sir. There have been some complaints due to damages on the road surface during rainy seasons. The damages have been repaired promptly through Government of Orissa.

(c) The Balance work has since been re-awarded in November, 2008. The work is in progress and targeted for completion by December, 2010.

National Highways

†527. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has formulated any policy for the development of National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of lanes on the National Highways in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh;

(d) whether Government is contemplating to increase the width of National Highways in these States; and

(e) if so, by when alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) The development and maintenance of National Highways (NHs) is a continuous process and these are taken up to keep the NHs in traffic worthy conditions according to traffic density, *inter-se* priority of works and availability of funds.

(c) The lane-wise distribution of NHs in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh are given below:

State	Single lane/ Intermediate lane (km.)	Two lanes (km.)	Four lanes and above (km.)
Madhya Pradesh	1,389	2,905	376
Chhattisgarh	593	1,537	54

(d) and (e) The details of initiatives taken for widening of NHs in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh under various phases of the National Highways Development Project (NHDP) alongwith their target date of completion are given in the Statement (*See* below). In addition to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.